

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

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In re:

PROMESA
Title III

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,

as representative of

No. 17 BK 3283-LTS

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
et al.,

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.¹

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ORDER REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR OCTOBER 28-29, 2020, OMNIBUS HEARING

The Court will conduct an omnibus hearing on certain motions in the above-captioned cases and related adversary proceedings (the “Hearing”) beginning at **9:30 a.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) on October 28, 2020**. The Hearing will be conducted on October 28, 2020, from **9:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.**, resume if necessary from **2:10 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, and continue on **October 29, 2020, beginning at 9:30 a.m. (Atlantic Standard Time)**.² In light of

¹ The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with each Debtor’s respective Title III case number and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are the (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (the “Commonwealth”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (“COFINA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3284-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (“HTA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (“ERS”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-4780-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (“PBA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 19-BK-5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801) (Title III case numbers are listed as Bankruptcy Case numbers due to software limitations).

² As addressed in the Court’s *Order Regarding Pending Omnibus Objections to Claims* (Docket Entry No. 14419, the “Claim Objection Procedures Order”), the October 29,

the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis, the Court will conduct the Hearing telephonically via CourtSolutions. The Hearing shall be governed by the following procedures.

Registration for Speaking and Listen-In Lines for Attorneys; Listen-In Facilities for Members of Public and Press

1. Attorneys who have entered an appearance in the Title III proceedings may register to participate as speakers or listen-in on the proceedings by telephone. Such attorneys must register with CourtSolutions at www.court-solutions.com no later than **October 23, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time)** and pay the fee established by CourtSolutions. In order to promote the efficient conduct of the proceedings, the number of speaking participation lines shall be limited. The Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (the “Oversight Board”) and the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority (“AAFAF”) shall be limited to five such speaking lines each, and each other party in interest shall be limited to two such speaking lines. There will be no limitation on the registration of listen-in lines for attorneys who have entered appearances in these proceedings.

2. In order to listen-in on the proceedings by telephone, members of the public and press should dial (888) 363-4749, and enter the access code (7214978) and security code (6132) when prompted. The access lines for press and the general public will be in listen-only mode at all times. Recording and further broadcasting of the proceedings by any means remain prohibited. Although Judicial Conference policy generally prohibits the broadcasting of proceedings in federal trial courts, the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference has approved a limited temporary exception to the policy to allow a judge to authorize the use of

2020, session of the hearing will address certain pending omnibus claim objections. For the avoidance of doubt, paragraphs 1, 3, and 7 of this Order do not apply to the pro se claimants who appear at the October 29, 2020, hearing pursuant to the Claim Objection Procedures Order.

teleconference technology to provide the public and the press with audio access to court proceedings while public access to federal courthouses is restricted due to the health and safety concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Order and Number of Speakers; Telephone Etiquette

3. For each matter scheduled to be heard at the Hearing, counsel who intend to speak must jointly file an informative motion by **October 23, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. (Atlantic Standard Time)** identifying (a) the relevant motion or report, (b) the parties who intend to appear and speak in connection with the relevant motion or report, (c) the names of no more than two individuals who intend to speak on behalf of each party in connection with the relevant motion or report, (d) the order in which the parties to the relevant motion shall present argument, and (e) time allocations for each speaker. The Court will make provision for additional comment by counsel for other parties in interest at the Hearing, where necessary.

4. During the call, the individuals who are allocated speaking lines are directed to observe the following rules:

- a. Use a landline whenever possible.
- b. Use a handset rather than a speakerphone.
- c. Identify yourself if asked to do so.
- d. Identify yourself by name each time you speak.
- e. Mute yourself when you are not speaking to eliminate background noise.
- f. Spell proper names.

5. All persons granted remote access to the proceedings are reminded of the general prohibition against photographing, recording, and rebroadcasting of court proceedings.

Violation of these prohibitions may result in sanctions, including removal of court issued media credentials, restricted entry to future hearings, denial of entry to future hearings, or any other sanctions deemed necessary by the Court.

Pre-Hearing Filing Deadlines

6. An agenda outlining the matters to be addressed and the projected timetable will be filed by Debtors' counsel by **October 26, 2020**, in accordance with the Thirteenth Amended Case Management Procedures. (See Docket Entry No. 13512-1, § III.M.) The agenda shall also include a compilation of the information filed pursuant to Paragraph 3, supra, including (a) the names of the individuals who intend to appear and speak on behalf of each relevant party in connection with each motion or report, (b) the order in which the parties to the relevant motion shall present argument, and (c) time allocations for each party. Debtors' counsel shall file a revised agenda on October 27, 2020, if circumstances have changed or if requested to do so by the Court. Debtors' counsel shall email a proposed agenda, including preliminary time allocations, to the Court by **October 23, 2020, at 12:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time)**.

7. To the extent that counsel intend to rely on exhibits and/or demonstratives at the hearing, counsel shall file any such exhibits and/or demonstratives as a single attachment, bookmarked to delineate each included exhibit or demonstrative, in searchable PDF format to an informative motion labeled to correspond to the relevant agenda item and/or motion or report by **12:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) on October 27, 2020**. Each party shall denominate its exhibits, if any, in a distinctive manner, and the informative motion shall also include an exhibit list indicating whether there are any known objections to the use of the exhibit or demonstrative. Any objection to exhibits or demonstratives so filed shall be made by informative motion filed by 9:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) on October 27, 2020.

8. Given the lack of physical public access to the Hearing and to further promote transparency and public access to accurate and current information, the Oversight Board and AAFAF shall file, by **5:00 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) on October 27, 2020**, written status reports. The Oversight Board's report shall address (a) the general status and activities of the Oversight Board, including measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, (b) the general status of relations among the Oversight Board and the Commonwealth and federal governments, (c) the general status of the ADR and ACR processes, including the anticipated number of matters to be directed into the ADR process and anticipated timetable for initiation of ADR procedures with respect to such matters, and (d) the status of PRIDCO's RSA and anticipated Title VI filing. AAFAF shall provide a general status report on its status and activities, including an overview of the Commonwealth's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the Hearing, the Court will ask counsel to the Oversight Board and AAFAF to respond to questions and comments, if any, related to their respective status reports.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 20, 2020

/s/ Laura Taylor Swain
LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN
United States District Judge